

Ardsley's defence paced to perfection

HOSTS East Ardsley retained the Advertiser Cup on Sunday in glorious sunshine at Jeffrey Field.

The competition was marred by the late withdrawal on Saturday of both Morley and Gildersome.

With Woodkirk unable to field a team due to Central Yorkshire League commitments, the competition turned into a straight fight between Drighlington and East Ardsley.

The teams did not let their supporters down and an excellent match was staged under a new eight-a-side format.

Each team batted in pairs for 24 overs (six overs each pair), starting on a figure of 200 runs. For each wicket that fell, the batting side lost eight runs.

Seven bowlers had to be used by the fielding side, with three bowlers bowling four overs and the

other four, three.

Drighlington batted first and took an aggressive approach from the start, scoring 162, but lost seven wickets in the process, finishing on a final total of 306.

Warren Parry, Ryan Wood and Basil King all topped the 20 mark, with Mike Pearson being the most successful East Ardsley bowler with two for 13 from his four overs.

East Ardsley paced their reply superbly, although any loss of late wickets, with Drig' skipper Richard Whitehurst steaming in, could have proved costly. But Rob Hoban and Shane Lee survived some vociferous appeals and a dropped catch behind the stumps by King to see Ardsley home.

Earlier Geoff Hunt (22) and Andy Langley (24) had starred for East Ardsley.

Their total was 142, but with only three lost wickets, giving a final score of 318.

Chairman of the organising committee Graham Heald congratulated both teams, saying the game had been played in the spirit intended when the competition was formulated.

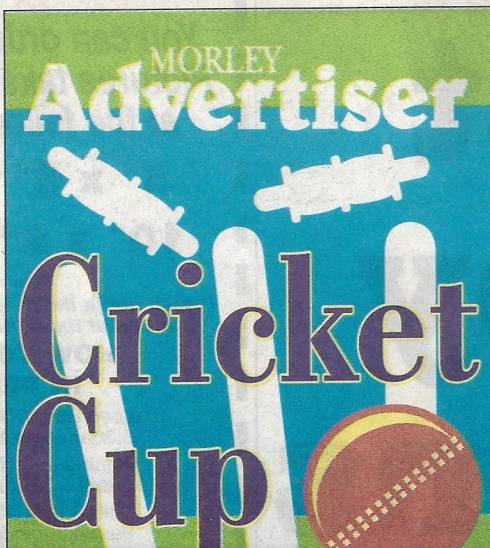
He also thanked the Advertiser for its continued support.

Afterwards, Advertiser editor Bob Evans presented the shield to Ardsley skipper Andy Langley and individual trophies to each player and the umpires.

Next year's competition will



● Andy Langley receives the trophy from Advertiser editor Bob Evans.



Tricky starter

MORLEY kick off their North One campaign with a tricky opener against Chester at Scatcherd Lane on Saturday (3pm).

Chester finished in the top half of North One last season and are widely expected to make a bold bid for promotion this season.

Hopefully home advantage will give the Maroons a boost and a flying start before an equally tricky game at Driffield and then the big derby home encounter with John Bentley's Cleckheaton.

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
Credit Cards welcome

SALFORD VAN & CAR HIRE

Competitive rates for Van and Car hire

Good availability